

Massachusetts STAR® Training Center

The Office of Technical Assistance established the STAR® Training Center, in cooperation with Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School, with a \$52,000 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

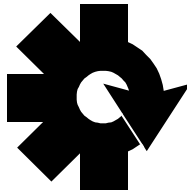
The STAR® Training Center offers:

- Training for automotive technicians, industrial painters, and students studying to become spray technicians.
- Experience, through individual, hands-on training using a laser-guided spray gun.

STAR® Training allows users to:

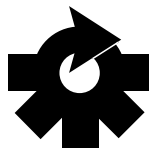
- Optimize transfer efficiency and reduce overspray.
- Reduce pollution and paint waste.
- Improve painting technique and skill

For more information contact:



Massachusetts Office of
Technical Assistance for
Toxics Use Reduction
100 Cambridge Street, Ste. 900
Boston, MA 02114
617.626.1060
617.626.1095 fax
www.mass.gov/ota

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Office of Technical Assistance for Toxics Use Reduction
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114



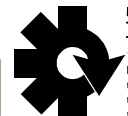
To:

Massachusetts STAR® Training Center



The Spray Technique and Analysis Research (STAR®) training center for spray painting technicians is the first of its kind in Massachusetts and is located at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School in Charlton.

The STAR® training focuses on operator technique and is hands-on using a laser-guided spray gun (LaserTouch™) that optimizes transfer efficiency and reduces overspray. This results in reduced paint waste and pollution.



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The Training

Though a day-long training, which features interactive exercises such as videotaping each technician's current spray painting technique, participants will learn:

- the proper maintenance, use and adjustment of a High-Volume Low-Pressure (HVLP) spray gun,
- calibration and use of the LaserTouch™ technology,
- and proper spray gun position, spray overlap and edge painting techniques to achieve maximum efficiency.

At the conclusion of the training each participant will complete a spray painting exercise using the techniques they have learned. They will be given a printout that quantifies changes and reductions in coating use as a result of the training and the use of the LaserTouch™ technology. Certificates of completion will be awarded.

Iowa Waste Reduction Center - STAR
on the web at
www.iwrc.org/programs/STAR.cfm

The Technology

The STAR® training program was developed by the Iowa Waste Reduction Center to decrease material consumption, increase transfer efficiency, and reduce overspray during manual spraying operations. The LaserTouch™, which can be used in conjunction with HVLP spray equipment, is designed to provide spray technicians with a "real-time" means of assessing and improving their spray technique and performance. Using a split laser beam image, the spray gun provides the operator with a visual indication of gun-to-part distance, gun angle, and targeting.

The LaserTouch™ also aids the painter in targeting the edges of the part being coated, tracing intricate sections of the part, and tracking previous passes to ensure the proper overlap. This results in improved transfer efficiency, reduced known VOC and particulate emissions, paint consumption, waste disposal, material costs, and spray booth maintenance.

LaserTouch & Technologies
on the web at www.lt-t.com

The Results

STAR® trainees using the LaserTouch™ have shown improvements in maintaining a consistent spray distance, proper gun angle, uniform coating thickness and transfer efficiency. The improvements can be attributed to both the basic training in spray paint technique and the LaserTouch™ technology.

The initial class of trainees at the STAR® center realized a reduction of 33% in their paint consumption at the end of the training session.

Using the LaserTouch™ technology did not change the finish quality, uniformity, or overall product quality - in some instances the painting quality improved.



Trainees indicated that they were comfortable using the LaserTouch™ after one day of use and would recommend LaserTouch™ to other technicians.

About The Office of Technical Assistance

- Provides non-regulatory technical and compliance assistance services to all Massachusetts toxics users at no cost.
- Helps businesses cut costs, improve chemical use efficiency, reduce environmental impact, and improve worker safety.
- Successfully assisted Massachusetts businesses, in various industry sectors, reduce the use of millions of pounds of toxic chemicals while saving millions of dollars.

About the Instructor and Bay Path

- Jeremy Guay is the Auto Body Collision Repair Department Head at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School. He is a certified instructor of the STAR® curriculum.
- The assistant instructors in the department have undergone the STAR® training program.
- The STAR® training program and the use of the LaserTouch™ technology was incorporated into the auto body curriculum at Bay Path.

How do I enroll?

Contact the instructor, Jeremy Guay at:
Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School
57 Old Mugget Hill Road, Charlton, MA 01507
Ph: 508.248.5971 x1770
Fax: 508.248.1644
Email: 0009@baypath.tec.ma.us

For more info on the web go to www.mass.gov/ota